



U.S. Department of Justice

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MEDIA RELEASE

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WOMAN SENTENCED FOR CREDIT CARD FRAUD

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: U.S. Attorney Tom Colantuono announced that Tommie Lee Ryan was sentenced to three years probation and one month home confinement following a December 13, 2002 guilty plea to charges that she fraudulently used other people's credit cards. Ryan, age 32, lived in Danbury, New Hampshire, at the time of her offense but now resides on Lake Street in Bristol, New Hampshire.

According to her guilty plea, Ryan obtained the credit cards when they were delivered to her post office box in error. Ryan used the credit cards to fraudulently obtain nearly \$8,000 in goods, services and other things of value – including a personal computer, \$500 in money orders and \$5,000 cash. In addition to her terms of probation and home confinement, Ryan was ordered to pay restitution to the defrauded credit card companies and merchants.

“In the aggregate, even small scale credit card fraud inflicts enormous losses on New Hampshire businesses. My office is firmly committed to prosecuting credit card fraud on whatever scale.” said U.S. Attorney Colantuono.

The U.S. Attorney's Office recognizes the valuable assistance of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the New Hampshire State Police in their investigation of this matter. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Morse.